



210 N. Park Ave.
Winter Park, FL
32789

P.O. Drawer 200
Winter Park, FL
32790-0200

Tel: 407-740-8575
Fax: 407-740-0613
tmi@tminc.com

Mr. Bruce Duke, Deputy Executive Director
South Carolina Public Service Commission
Synergy Business Park, Saluda Building
101 Executive Center Drive, Suite 100
Columbia, SC 29210

RE: Request for Expedited Review of Docket No. 2004-363-C
Bell Atlantic Communications, Inc. d/b/a Verizon Long Distance
Tariff Revision

Dear Mr. Duke:

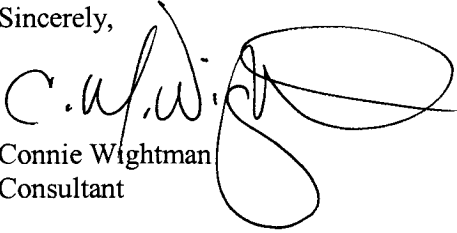
Enclosed please find an original and twenty-five (25) copies of this letter and the Notice of Filing for Docket No. 2004-363-C filed on behalf of Bell Atlantic Communications, Inc. d/b/a Verizon Long Distance. The Company respectfully requests an *Expedited Review* of this tariff revision, which the Commission received on December 10, 2004, to implement a March 1, 2005 effective date. Also accompanying this request is Verified Testimony of Mr. John Broten, President of Bell Atlantic Communications, Inc. d/b/a Verizon Long Distance.

Please acknowledge receipt of this filing by date stamping the extra copy of this cover letter and returning it to me in the self-addressed, stamped envelope provided for that purpose.

Any questions regarding this filing may be directed to my attention at (407) 740-8575 or via email at cwightman@tminc.com.

Thank you for your assistance.

Sincerely,


Connie Wightman
Consultant

cc: Cheryl Powers
File: BACI/VLD - SC
TMS: SCo0415a Res

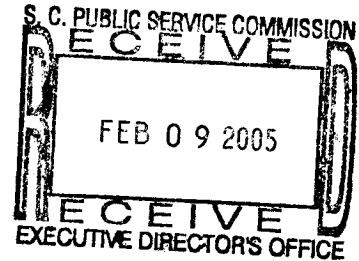
172714

ACCEPTED

Legal 203 2-10-05

February 8, 2005

Via Overnight Delivery



PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION OF SOUTH CAROLINA

DOCKETING DEPARTMENT

NOTICE OF FILING

DOCKET NO. 2004-363-C

Bell Atlantic Communications, Inc. d/b/a Verizon Long Distance has filed with the Public Service Commission of South Carolina a tariff revision. The Company respectfully requests this tariff revision to become effective on March 1, 2005. This filing increases the maximum Monthly Recurring Charge (MRC) associated with Plan F service, 60 minute allotment. Upon approval of this filing, the Company plans to increase the current rate for this rate element from \$5.00 to \$6.00. This is not a general rate increase and does not impact the general body of rate payers.

A copy of the application is on file in the offices of the Public Service Commission of South Carolina, 101 Executive Center Drive, Columbia, South Carolina 29210 and is available from Connie Wightman, Consultant, Technologies Management, Inc., 210 N. Park Ave., Winter Park, FL 32789.

A public hearing, if scheduled, will be held in Columbia, South Carolina in the offices of the Commission at the above address, for the purpose of receiving testimony and other evidence from all interested parties regarding this Application. The time and date of this hearing will be furnished to all interested parties at a later date.

Any person who wishes to participate in this matter, as a party of record with the right of cross-examination should file a Petition to Intervene in accordance with the Commission's Rules of Practice and Procedure on or before **January 27, 2005** and indicate the amount of time required for his presentation. *Please refer to **Docket No. 2004-363-C**.*

Any person who wishes to testify and present evidence at the hearing, if scheduled, should notify the Docketing Department in writing at the address below and Connie Wightman, at the above address, on or before **January 27, 2005** and indicate the amount of time required for his presentation. *Please refer to **Docket No. 2004-363-C**.*

Any person who wishes to be notified of the hearing, but does not wish to present testimony or be a party of record, may do so by notifying the Docketing Department in writing at the address below on or before **January 27, 2005**. *Please refer to **Docket No. 2004-363-C**.*

PLEASE TAKE NOTICE: Any person who wishes to have his or her comments considered as part of the official record of this proceeding **MUST** present such comments, in person, to the Commission during the hearing.

Persons seeking information about the Commission's Procedures should contact the Commission at (803) 896-5100.

Public Service Commission of South Carolina
Attn: Docketing Department
Post Office Drawer 11649
Columbia, South Carolina 29211

JAN-13-05

**BEFORE THE
STATE OF SOUTH CAROLINA
PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION**

In The Matter of the Tariff Filing of)	
Bell Atlantic Communications, Inc. d/b/a)	
Verizon Long Distance (VLD) for authority)	
to Increase Maximum MRC Rate)	Docket No. 2004-363-C
For Plan F Service		
Within the State of South Carolina)	

Bell Atlantic Communications, Inc. d/b/a Verizon Long Distance

TESTIMONY OF JOHN BROTEN

1 **Q. Will you please state your name and business address.**

2

3 A. I am John Broten. My business address is Bell Atlantic Communications, Inc., 1320 N.
4 Court House Road, 2nd Floor, Arlington, Virginia 22201. My telephone number is (703) 526-
5 3044 and my facsimile number is (703) 465-7604.

6

7 **Q. By whom are you employed and in what capacity?**

8

9 A. I am President of Bell Atlantic Communications, Inc., doing business as Verizon Long
10 Distance ("VLD").

11

12 **Q. Please give a brief description of your responsibilities at VLD with respect to this**
13 **filing.**

14

15 A. I am responsible for regulatory policies for VLD. Specifically, all the regulatory support
16 functions fall under my supervision. This filing was initiated at my instruction and I am
17 responsible for implementation of any product rate changes at VLD.

18

19 **Q. What is the purpose of your testimony?**

20

21 A. The purpose of my testimony is to explain the proposed tariff change and present evidence
22 that the proposed rate increase is not a general rate increase and that approving the proposed rate
23 change is in the public interest.

24

25 **Q. Please describe the services VLD proposes to change.**

26

1 A. The service we are proposing to change is tarified under the generic name Plan F.
2 Currently this plan is marketed to the public as TalkTime. TalkTime is a “block of time” calling
3 plan that offers customers the choice of the number of minutes they want to purchase for a
4 monthly plan price. The specific rate element that we are seeking to change at this time is the
5 TalkTime 60 monthly recurring charge. This is the fixed rate element associated with the service
6 when the customer chooses the option that provides sixty minutes of calling for a set monthly
7 recurring charge. The current rate is \$5.00. That is also the current maximum rate in the VLD
8 South Carolina tariff. The company plans to increase this monthly recurring charge to \$6.00 in all
9 jurisdictions. In order to do so in South Carolina, we must first increase our maximum rate. We
10 are proposing to increase the maximum to \$12.00.

11
12 **Q. Why is VLD proposing to increase the rate Monthly Recurring Charge associated**
13 **with the TalkTime 60 option?**

14
15 A. VLD constantly reviews its rates and products. . We often increase or reduce rates to
16 strike the right balance between maximizing revenue and staying competitive in the marketplace.
17 We also increase rates from time to time in order to get customers to move from one product to
18 another.

19
20 **Q. How did you select \$12.00 as the proposed maximum?**

21
22 A. Although we are only planning to increase the current rate to \$6.00, we have decided to
23 seek a maximum of \$12.00 to give us flexibility for the future.

24
25 **Q. Why is the proposed rate increase not a general rate increase?**

1 A. As of October 2004, only about 4% of VLD's customers in South Carolina were
2 subscribed to TalkTime 60. No other customers are affected by this proposed rate change.

3

4 **Q. Will consumers benefit from this rate increase?**

5

6 A. Consumers benefit when alternatives are readily available. By allowing VLD to offer this
7 service at competitive prices, the service can continue to be made available. If the consumer feels
8 that the price outweighs the benefits to the consumer for the service, the consumer can choose a
9 different service from VLD, or may choose another carrier altogether. Allowing the market to
10 seek its own level for this service ultimately prevents market distortions and invigorates
11 competition to the benefit of all consumers.

12

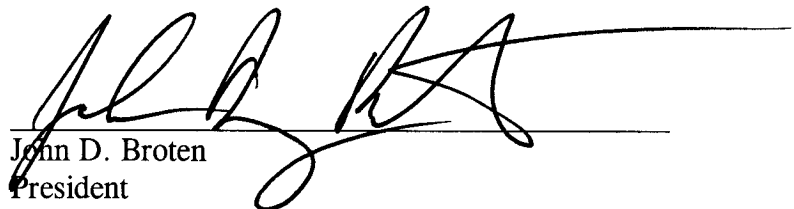
13 **Q. Does this conclude your testimony?**

14 A. Yes.

15

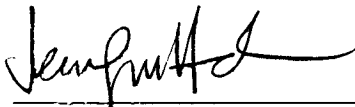
VERIFICATION

I, John D. Broten, first being duly sworn upon oath, depose and say that I am President of Bell Atlantic Communications, Inc., d/b/a Verizon Long Distance, a Delaware corporation; that I have read the above and foregoing prefiled testimony and know the contents thereof; that said contents are true in substance and in fact, except to those matters stated upon information and belief, and as to those, I believe same to be true.


John D. Broten
President
Bell Atlantic Communications, Inc. d/b/a
Verizon Long Distance

Commonwealth of Virginia
County of Arlington

Subscribed and sworn to before me
this 7 day of February 2005



Notary Public

My Commission expires: 2-28-07

